

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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41

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-09 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01

T-03 IO-12 RSR-01 AID-20 PC-04 NEA-10 /142 W

----- 040999

R 131523 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8429

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 1112

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR MO AG TS MR LY

SUBJ: GOM FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA MAKES QUICK VISIT TO ALGIERS

REF: A. ALGIERS 561; B. RABAT 1096

1. FOREIGN MINISTER AHMED TAIBI BENHIMA LEFT MOROCCO MARCH 13 FOR PREVIOUSLY UNANNOUNCED VISIT TO ALGIERS AND RETURNED TO RABAT LATER SAME DAY. IN AIRPORT STATEMENT ON DEPARTURE ALGIERS, CARRIED IN MOROCCAN PRESS, BENHIMA SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED " AT GREAT LENGTH" MOROCCAN- ALGERIA RELATIONS WITH PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE AND THAT HE LEFT ALGIERS " SATISFIED WITH QUALITY" OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. SEMI- OFFICIAL GOM WIRE SERVICE ( MAP) SAYS BENHIMA ACCOMPAINED BY " IMPORTANT DELEGATION" BUT GIVES NO CLUE TO ITS COMPOSITION.

2. ISTIQLAL ARABIC DAILY " AL- ALAM" SPECULATES VISIT RELATED TO " URGENT" FOREIGN MINISTERIAL TALKS ON SPANISH SAHARA SCHEDULED FOR END OF MARCH IN NOUAKCHOTT. ( GOM HAD NOT YET FOLLOWED ALGERIAN LEAD IN FORMALLY ACCEPTING MAURITANIAN INVITATION TO ATTEND MEETING ( REF A).

3. MORE LIKELY POSSIBILITY IS THAT SUDDEN VISIT RELATED  
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TO INFILTRATION OF ARMED GANGS INTO MOROCCO FROM LIBYA  
VIA ALGERIA ( REF B). BENHIMA, WHO REPORTEDLY CARRYING  
MESSAGE FROM KING HASSAN TO BOUMEDIENE, MAY HAVE HAD  
INSTRUCTIONS TO PRESS FOR INCREASED ALGERIAN COOPERATION  
IN SECURING BORDER AGAINST FURTHER INFILTRATION FROM LIBYA.  
GOM MAY ALSO BE TRYING TO ENLIST ALGERIAN POLITICAL SUPPORT  
AGAINST LIBYA.

4. WOULD WELCOME ANY INFORMATION ADDRESSEES MAY LEARN  
OF MEETING.

ROCKWELL

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973RABAT01112  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 15 AUG 2001  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** GOM FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA MAKES QUICK VISIT TO ALGIERS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, AG, LY, MO, MR, TS  
**To:** AF  
ALGIERS  
NOUAKCHOTT  
PARIS  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
TRIPOLI  
TUNIS

**Type:** TE

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